

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 USIA-06
TRSE-00 SOE-02 DOE-11 CIAE-00 COME-00 ACDA-12
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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4548

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 01866

USOECD

EXCON

E.O. 11652: XGDS1
TAGS: ESTC, COCOM, UR, US
SUBJ: US EPITAXIAL REACTORS TO THE USSR - IL 1355

REF: A) COCOM DOC. (77) 887, B) PARIS 101, C) COCOM DOC
887,2

1. UKDEL HAS INFORMED USDEL BILATERALLY THAT DUE TO AN
ERROR ARISING FROM CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS ABSENCES AT HIS
FOREIGN OFFICE HE HAD APPROVED THIS CASE. HIS AUTHORIT-
IES WERE, IN FACT QUITE CONCERNED ABOUT THIS EXPORT
AND WOULD PROBABLY HAVE INSTRUCTED HIM TO OBJECT TO IT.
HIS AUTHORITIES WOULD NOW WISH TO CONVEY THIS CONCERN
TO THE U.S. AUTHORITIES, HE SAID, AS WELL AS ASSOCIATE
THE UK WITH THE CONCERNS EXPRESSED BY THE GERMAN DELE-
GATION IN REFDOC C.

2. UK CONCERNS WERE EXPRESSED IN A MEMORANDUM HANDED TO
USDEL AS FOLLOWS:

"1. UNITED KINGDOM EXPERTS ARE NOT SATISFIED WITH
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THE ASSURANCES GIVEN IN THE UNITED STATES SUB-
MISSION AGAINST DIVERSION OF THE REACTORS TO THE
PRODUCTION OF MICROWAVE DEVICES OF EMBARGOED
TYPES FOR MILITARY USE. WHILST UNITED KINGDOM
EXPERTS ACCEPT THE US STATEMENT THAT THESE SYS-
TEMS ARE BOTH DESIGNED AND SUITED FOR HIGH VOLUME
PRODUCTION OF LIGHT-EMITTING DIODES, THEY MIGHT

ALSO WELL BE DIVERTED TO THE PRODUCTION OF SILICON MICROWAVE DEVICES, IN ADDITION TO POSSIBLE OBJECTIONABLE USES OF THEIR CAPACITY FOR HANDLING GALLIUM COMPOUNDS. IN THE LIGHT OF THE UNITED KINGDOM'S ASSESSMENT OF CURRENT SOVIET RESOURCES, TECHNOLOGY AND OBJECTIVES, UNITED KINGDOM EXPERTS BELIEVE THAT THERE IS A SERIOUS LIKELIHOOD OF SUCH DIVERSION TAKING PLACE.

2. THE UNITED KINGDOM AUTHORITIES HAVE CAREFULLY STUDIED THE BROCHURES PROVIDED AND THE TECHNICAL JUSTIFICATION OFFERED IN PARAGRAPH 6 OF THE US SUBMISSION. ON POINT (A) OF THAT PARAGRAPH THEY ACCEPT THAT IT WOULD BE IMPRACTICABLE TO OPERATE EITHER TYPE OF EQUIPMENT AT 1,000(DEGREES)C FOR FABRICATING GARNET MATERIALS, BUT MY AUTHORITIES WOULD BE GLAD TO HAVE THE UNITED STATES VIEW ON WHETHER, AND IF SO WHY, OPERATION AT 1,000 (DEGREES) FOR SILICON PROCESSING WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE.

3. ON POINT (B) IT IS THE UNITED KINGDOM ASSESSMENT THAT SOVIET MILITARY INTEREST IN SILICON MICROWAVE DEVICES IS STRONG AND URGENT ENOUGH TO MAKE IT LIKELY THAT THE RUSSIANS WOULD OVERCOME THE PRACTICAL OBSTACLES DESCRIBED AND MAKE THE NECESSARY CHANGES TO CONVERT AT LEAST ONE OF THE

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3 SYSTEMS TO SILICON PROCESSING. ALTHOUGH MY AUTHORITIES HAVE NOT FRAMED SPECIFIC QUESTIONS ON THIS POINT THEY WOULD WELCOME ANY FURTHER INFORMATION WHICH YOUR DELEGATION COULD PROVIDE WHICH WOULD HELP TO ALLAY THESE SUSPICIONS.

4. THE MAJOR CAUSE FOR CONCERN TO MY AUTHORITIES IS THE FACT ADMITTED IN POINT (D) THAT MAJOR MODIFICATIONS WOULD NOT BE NECESSARY IN ORDER TO CONVERT ANY OF THESE SYSTEMS TO MAKING MICROWAVE DEVICES. THE UK AUTHORITIES ADMIT THAT QUESTION OF A NON-MILITARY DEMAND FOR LED AND HANCE FOR SYSTEMS OF THE GENERAL CLASS REPRESENTED BY THE AMG/500; BUT ON PRESENT INFORMATION UK EXPERTS DO NOT THINK IT SAFE TO LET THE RUSSIANS HAVE THESE 3 SYSTEMS SINCE IT IS STANDARD PRACTICE IN THE ELECTRONICS INDUSTRY TO ACCEPT THE REDUCTION IN EFFICIENCY WHICH RESULTS FROM ADAPTING EQUIPMENT DESIGNED FOR A LOW PRIORITY USE TO MEET A HIGH PRIORITY REQUIREMENT."

3. ACTION REQUESTED: INSTRUCTIONS FOR RESPONDING TO UK

CONCERNS.

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT, EXPORT CONTROLS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 jan 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978PARIS01866
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
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Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780032-0567
Format: TEL
From: PARIS USOECD
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780140/aaaabhmvtel
Line Count: 118
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: c61dc7e1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
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Review Release Event: n/a
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SAS ID: 3740756
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: US EPITAXIAL REACTORS TO THE USSR - IL 1355
TAGS: ESTC, UR, US, COCOM
To: STATE
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Review Markings:
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